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Level 3 – 7th November 2024

No first kiss for record number of Japan teens

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

A new study suggests that the number of Japanese teenagers who have experienced a first kiss is at a record low. A national survey was conducted by the Japan Association for Sex Education. High schoolers answered questions on their sexual experiences and behaviour. The researchers found that just one in five high school boys has experienced kissing. This is the lowest figure since records began in 1974. The number of girls who have kissed is also on the decline. Just a quarter of Japan's female high school students have done so. The numbers for both sexes have been on the decline since their peak in 2005. Researchers analyzed data from 12,562 questionnaires.

The researchers said there were several reasons why fewer and fewer Japanese teens are kissing. A big reason is the coronavirus pandemic. A researcher suggested that: "The limited contact with others during the coronavirus outbreak may have lowered the rate of sexual activity among junior and senior high school students." Researcher Professor Yusuke Hayashi said there was a "combination of school closures and restrictions on face-to-face contact" during the pandemic. Professor Hayashi said another reason could be smartphones. More young people are choosing to interact with their phones rather than with each other. This trend could worsen Japan's already low birth rate.

Sources: <https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20241104/p2a/00m/0na/016000c>
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/nov/05/kiss-chaste-number-of-high-school-boys-in-japan-who-have-had-first-kiss-falls-to-1970s-levels>
<https://www.independent.co.uk/asia/japan/japan-high-school-students-kiss-birth-rate-b2641476.html>

WARM-UPS

1. A FIRST KISS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about a first kiss. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

teenagers / first kiss / survey / high school boys / high school girls / decline / peak / researcher / coronavirus / pandemic / school closure / smartphone / trend / birth rate

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. EDUCATION: Students A **strongly** believe schools should educate children about kissing; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. THE FIRST: How important and exciting are these firsts? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How Important	How Exciting
Kiss		
Job		
Tooth		
Pet		
Car		
Mobile phone		

5. LOW: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "low". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. SCHOOL: Rank these with your partner. Put the best school at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Kindergarten
- Elementary school
- Junior high school
- High school
- University
- Graduate school
- Sunday school
- After hours school

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 1. Suggest | a. The highest point or level of something. |
| 2. Survey | b. Done or carried out (for example, a survey or experiment). |
| 3. Conducted | c. Going down or becoming less. |
| 4. Figure | d. Give an idea or say something that you think is a good plan. |
| 5. On the decline | e. One-fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) of something; 25%. |
| 6. A quarter | f. A questionnaire that gets people to answer questions to find out what they think or do. |
| 7. Peak | g. A number or amount. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 8. Several | h. Talk or do things with other people. |
| 9. Combination | i. A general direction that something is moving toward. |
| 10. Restriction | j. The number of babies born in a certain place and time. |
| 11. Interact | k. Two or more things put together. |
| 12. Trend | l. Become worse or go down in quality. |
| 13. Worsen | m. A rule that limits or stops something. |
| 14. Birth rate | n. More than two, but not a lot. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. The survey said Japan's teenagers kiss less than anyone in the world. **T / F**
2. Japan first started recording high schoolers' first kisses in 1954. **T / F**
3. A third of Japan's female high schoolers have never had a first kiss. **T / F**
4. Researchers looked at over 12,000 questionnaires in their study. **T / F**
5. The article says there are seven reasons for boys not kissing. **T / F**
6. A researcher said there is less kissing because of coronavirus. **T / F**
7. A researcher said there was less kissing because of smartphones. **T / F**
8. The article says kissing could worsen Japan's low birth rate. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1. conducted | a. decrease |
| 2. figure | b. meet |
| 3. decline | c. poll |
| 4. peak | d. cause |
| 5. questionnaire | e. throughout |
| 6. reason | f. high point |
| 7. combination | g. movement |
| 8. during | h. done |
| 9. interact | i. mix |
| 10. trend | j. number |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. A national survey | a. female high school students |
| 2. This is the lowest figure since | b. than with each other |
| 3. Just a quarter of Japan's | c. their peak in 2005 |
| 4. been on the decline since | d. the coronavirus outbreak |
| 5. Researchers analyzed data from | e. was conducted |
| 6. The researchers said there were several | f. low birth rate |
| 7. The limited contact with others during | g. during the pandemic |
| 8. face-to-face contact" | h. 12,562 questionnaires |
| 9. interact with their phones rather | i. reasons why |
| 10. This trend could worsen Japan's already | j. records began in 1974 |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

A new study (1) _____ that the number of Japanese teenagers who have experienced a first kiss is at a record (2) _____. A national survey was conducted by the Japan Association for Sex Education. High schoolers (3) _____ questions on their sexual experiences and behaviour. The researchers found that (4) _____ one in five high school boys has experienced kissing. This is the lowest (5) _____ since records began in 1974. The number of girls who have kissed is also on the (6) _____. Just a quarter of Japan's female high school students have done so. The numbers for both sexes have been on the decline since their (7) _____ in 2005. Researchers analyzed (8) _____ from 12,562 questionnaires.

just
suggests
decline
data
answered
figure
peak
low

The researchers said there were several (9) _____ why fewer and fewer Japanese teens are kissing. A (10) _____ reason is the coronavirus pandemic. A researcher suggested that: "The limited (11) _____ with others during the coronavirus outbreak may have lowered the rate of sexual activity (12) _____ junior and senior high school students." Researcher Professor Yusuke Hayashi said there was a "combination of school (13) _____ and restrictions on face-to-face contact" during the pandemic. Professor Hayashi said (14) _____ reason could be smartphones. More young people are choosing to (15) _____ with their phones rather than with each other. This (16) _____ could worsen Japan's already low birth rate.

closures
reasons
contact
trend
another
big
interact
among

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

- 1) teenagers who have experienced a first kiss is at _____
 - a. a record slow
 - b. a record low
 - c. a record allow
 - d. a record follow
- 2) High schoolers answered questions on their sexual _____
 - a. experiences and behaviour
 - b. experiences and behavioural
 - c. experiences and behaviourist
 - d. experiences and behaviourism
- 3) Just a quarter of Japan's female high school students _____
 - a. have doing so
 - b. has done so
 - c. have done so
 - d. has doing so
- 4) The numbers for both sexes have been on the decline _____
 - a. since their speak
 - b. since their peak
 - c. since the peak
 - d. since their peek
- 5) Researchers analyzed data _____
 - a. from 12,562 questionnaires
 - b. from 12,563 questionnaires
 - c. from 12,564 questionnaires
 - d. from 12,552 questionnaires
- 6) there were several reasons why fewer and fewer Japanese _____
 - a. teens are kissed
 - b. teen are kissing
 - c. teens be kissing
 - d. teens are kissing
- 7) The limited contact with others during _____
 - a. the coronavirus out brake
 - b. the coronavirus outer break
 - c. the coronavirus outbreak
 - d. the coronavirus take a break
- 8) a combination of school closures and restrictions on face-_____
 - a. to-face contract
 - b. to-face contact
 - c. to-face counteract
 - d. to-face con tacked
- 9) More young people are _____
 - a. choosing too interact
 - b. chosen to interact
 - c. choosing to interact
 - d. choosing to counteract
- 10) This trend could worsen Japan's already _____
 - a. lowered birth rate
 - b. low birth rate
 - c. lower birth rate
 - d. lows birth rate

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

A new study suggests that (1) _____ Japanese teenagers who have experienced a first kiss is at (2) _____. A national survey was conducted by the Japan Association for Sex Education. High schoolers (3) _____ their sexual experiences and behaviour. The researchers found that just one in five high school boys has experienced kissing. This is (4) _____ since records began in 1974. The number of girls who have kissed is also on the decline. Just a quarter of Japan's female high school students have done so. The numbers for both sexes have been on the decline (5) _____ in 2005. Researchers (6) _____ 12,562 questionnaires.

The researchers said there were (7) _____ fewer and fewer Japanese teens are kissing. A big reason is the coronavirus pandemic. A researcher suggested that: "The (8) _____ others during the coronavirus outbreak may have (9) _____ of sexual activity among junior and senior high school students." Researcher Professor Yusuke Hayashi said there was a "combination (10) _____ and restrictions on face-to-face contact" during the pandemic. Professor Hayashi said another reason could be smartphones. More young people (11) _____ interact with their phones rather than with each other. This (12) _____ Japan's already low birth rate.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

1. In which parts of Japan was a survey conducted?
2. When did Japan start recording first kisses among high schoolers?
3. How many of Japan's high school girls have never had a first kiss?
4. In what year was there a record number of high schoolers' first kisses?
5. How many questionnaires did researchers analyze?
6. How many reasons did the article say there were for the lack of kissing?
7. When did teenagers have limited contact with each other?
8. What were there restrictions on during coronavirus?
9. What are more and more high schoolers interacting with?
10. What trend could non-kissing high schoolers worsen?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

- 1) In which parts of Japan was a survey conducted?
 - a) nationally
 - b) the north
 - c) the centre
 - d) Tokyo and Osaka
- 2) When did Japan start recording first kisses among high schoolers?
 - a) 1972
 - b) 1973
 - c) 1974
 - d) 1975
- 3) How many of Japan's high school girls have never had a first kiss?
 - a) two fifths
 - b) three quarters
 - c) seven eighths
 - d) two thirds
- 4) In what year was there a record number of high schoolers' first kisses?
 - a) 2008
 - b) 2007
 - c) 2006
 - d) 2005
- 5) How many questionnaires did researchers analyze?
 - a) 12,562
 - b) 12,652
 - c) 12,265
 - d) 12,625
- 6) How many reasons did the article say there were for the lack of kissing?
 - a) seventeen
 - b) seventy
 - c) seven
 - d) several
- 7) When did teenagers have limited contact with each other?
 - a) after school hours
 - b) during the coronavirus pandemic
 - c) during lunch time
 - d) 2019
- 8) What were there restrictions on during coronavirus?
 - a) playing sport
 - b) masks
 - c) coughing
 - d) face-to-face contact
- 9) What are more and more high schoolers interacting with?
 - a) each other
 - b) networks
 - c) their smartphones
 - d) environmental issues
- 10) What trend could non-kissing high schoolers worsen?
 - a) marriage
 - b) Japan's low birth rate
 - c) divorce
 - d) teenagers getting engaged

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

Role A – Kindergarten

You think kindergarten is the best place to be at school. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their schools. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): elementary school, high school or university.

Role B – Elementary School

You think elementary school is the best place to be at school. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their schools. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): kindergarten, high school or university.

Role C – High School

You think high school is the best place to be at school. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their schools. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): elementary school, kindergarten or university.

Role D – University

You think university is the best place to be at school. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their schools. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): elementary school, high school or kindergarten.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for... the words 'teenager' and 'kiss'.

teenager	kiss
-----------------	-------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• new• answered• lowest• quarter• peak• data	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• several• big• junior• combination• young• worsen
---	---

A FIRST KISS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

Write five GOOD questions about a first kiss in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

A FIRST KISS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'teenager'?
3. What do you think of teenagers?
4. At what age should a person's first kiss be?
5. Why do people kiss?
6. What are the good and bad things about kissing?
7. Should schools educate children about kissing?
8. Is the figure of one in five boys too high or too low?
9. Should people kiss only the person they marry?
10. Should kissing at high school be banned?

No first kiss for record number of Japan teens – 7th November 2024
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A FIRST KISS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'kiss'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How important and special is a first kiss?
15. How did coronavirus affect kissing?
16. Should kissing be banned in public?
17. How are smartphones changing human interaction?
18. What do you think of songs about kissing?
19. How can countries improve birth rates?
20. What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

A new study (1) _____ that the number of Japanese teenagers who have experienced a first kiss is (2) _____ a record low. A national survey was conducted by the Japan Association for Sex Education. High schoolers answered questions (3) _____ their sexual experiences and behaviour. The researchers found that just one in five high school boys (4) _____ experienced kissing. This is the lowest figure since records began in 1974. The number of girls who have kissed is also on the decline. Just a (5) _____ of Japan's female high school students have done so. The numbers for both sexes have been on the decline since their (6) _____ in 2005. Researchers analyzed data from 12,562 questionnaires.

The researchers said there were several reasons why (7) _____ and fewer Japanese teens are kissing. A big reason is the coronavirus pandemic. A researcher suggested that: "The limited (8) _____ with others during the coronavirus outbreak may have lowered the (9) _____ of sexual activity among junior and senior high school students." Researcher Professor Yusuke Hayashi said there was a "combination of school closures and restrictions on face-to-face contact" (10) _____ the pandemic. Professor Hayashi said another reason could (11) _____ smartphones. More young people are choosing to interact with their phones rather than with each other. This trend could (12) _____ Japan's already low birth rate.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) suggestive | (b) suggest | (c) suggests | (d) suggestion |
| 2. | (a) at | (b) in | (c) by | (d) of |
| 3. | (a) on | (b) at | (c) of | (d) by |
| 4. | (a) has | (b) having | (c) have | (d) behave |
| 5. | (a) quarters | (b) quartered | (c) quarterly | (d) quarter |
| 6. | (a) pack | (b) peek | (c) speak | (d) peak |
| 7. | (a) fewer | (b) less | (c) few | (d) lesser |
| 8. | (a) intact | (b) contract | (c) contrast | (d) contact |
| 9. | (a) rate | (b) late | (c) mate | (d) sate |
| 10. | (a) while | (b) during | (c) awhile | (d) among |
| 11. | (a) being | (b) be | (c) been | (d) have |
| 12. | (a) worsen | (b) baddie | (c) bad | (d) worse |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

Paragraph 1

1. A new study sseugstg that
2. A national revsyu
3. experiences and uvhebrioa
4. the lowest gruefi since records began
5. on the eidelnc since their peak in 2005
6. Researchers aayenzld data

Paragraph 2

7. there were slverea reasons why
8. during the coronavirus ketboura
9. school esocsulr
10. during the dcnimepa
11. people are choosing to ieanrctt with their phones
12. This trend could snrowe

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () kissing. A big reason is the coronavirus pandemic. A researcher suggested that: "The limited contact with
- () of girls who have kissed is also on the decline. Just a quarter of Japan's female high school students have done
- () so. The numbers for both sexes have been on the decline since their
- () others during the coronavirus outbreak may have lowered the rate of sexual activity among
- (**1**) A new study suggests that the number of Japanese teenagers who have experienced a first kiss is at a record
- () low. A national survey was conducted by the Japan Association for Sex Education. High schoolers answered
- () The researchers said there were several reasons why fewer and fewer Japanese teens are
- () five high school boys has experienced kissing. This is the lowest figure since records began in 1974. The number
- () peak in 2005. Researchers analyzed data from 12,562 questionnaires.
- () questions on their sexual experiences and behaviour. The researchers found that just one in
- () junior and senior high school students." Researcher Professor Yusuke Hayashi said there was a "combination of school
- () reason could be smartphones. More young people are choosing to interact with their phones rather
- () closures and restrictions on face-to-face contact" during the pandemic. Professor Hayashi said another
- () than with each other. This trend could worsen Japan's already low birth rate.

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

1. who first experienced Japanese have a teenagers kiss .
2. five one Just in school boys . high
3. 1974 . figure records began lowest in since The
4. students . A of female school Japan's quarter high
5. the have decline . been sexes Both on
6. researchers were why . reasons there said several The
7. others coronavirus with contact outbreak . the Limited during
8. Hayashi be said reason another Professor could smartphones .
9. choosing are interact with phones . to their People
10. worsen could trend birth Japan's This rate . low

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

A new study suggests that the *number / numeral* of Japanese teenagers who have experienced a first kiss is at a record *lower / low*. A national survey was conducted *by / of* the Japan Association for Sex Education. High schoolers answered questions *on / in* their sexual experiences and behaviour. The researchers found that just *once / one* in five high school boys has experienced kissing. This is the lowest figure since records *began / beginning* in 1974. The number of girls who have kissed is *also / addition* on the decline. Just a *quarterly / quarter* of Japan's female high school students have *done / doing* so. The numbers for both sexes have been on the decline since their peak *in / on* 2005. Researchers analyzed data from 12,562 questionnaires.

The researchers said there were several reasons *what / why* fewer and fewer */ less* Japanese teens are kissing. A big reason is the coronavirus pandemic. A researcher suggested *what / that*: "The limited contact with others during the coronavirus outbreak may have *heightened / lowered* the rate of sexual activity among junior and *seniority / senior* high school students." Researcher Professor Yusuke Hayashi said there was a "combination *to / of* school closures and restrictions on face-to-face *contract / contact*" during the pandemic. Professor Hayashi said *another / other* reason could be smartphones. More young people are *chosen / choosing* to interact with their phones rather than with each other. This *trendy / trend* could worsen Japan's already low birth rate.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

_ n_w st_dy s_gg_sts th_t th_ n_mb_r _f J_p_n_s_ t__n_g_rs wh_ h_v_ _xp_r__nc_d _ f_rst k_ss _s _t _ r_c_rd l_w. _ n_t__n_l s_rv_y w_s c_nd_ct_d by th_ J_p_n _ss_c__t__n f_r S_x _d_c_t__n. H_gh sch__l_rs _nsw_r_d q__st__ns _n th__r s_x__l _xp_r__nc_s _nd b_h_v__r. Th_ r_s__rch_rs f__nd th_t j_st _n_ _n f_v_ h_gh sch__l b_ys h_s _xp_r__nc_d k_ss_ng. Th_s _s th_ l_w_st f_g_r_ s_nc_ r_c_rds b_g_n _n 1974. Th_ n_mb_r _f g_rls wh_ h_v_ k_ss_d _s _ls_ _n th_ d_cl_n_. J_st _ q__rt_r _f J_p_n's f_m_l_ h_gh sch__l st_d_nts h_v_ d_n_ s_. Th_ n_mb_rs f_r b_th s_x_s h_v_ b__n _n th_ d_cl_n_ s_nc_ th__r p__k _n 2005. R_s__rch_rs _n_lyz_d d_t_ fr_m 12,562 q__st__nn__r_s.

Th_ r_s__rch_rs s__d th_r_ w_r_ s_v_r_l r__s_ns why f_w_r _nd f_w_r J_p_n_s_ t__ns _r_ k_ss_ng. _ b_g r__s_n _s th_ c_r_n_v_r_s p_nd_m_c. _ r_s__rch_r s_gg_st_d th_t: "Th_ l_m_t_d c_nt_ct w_th _th_rs d_r_ng th_ c_r_n_v_r_s __tbr__k m_y h_v_ l_w_r_d th_ r_t_ _f s_x__l _ct_v_ty _m_ng j_n__r _nd s_n__r h_gh sch__l st_d_nts." R_s__rch_r Pr_f_ss_r Y_s_k_ H_y_sh_ s__d th_r_ w_s _ "c_mb_n_t__n _f sch__l cl_s_r_s _nd r_str_ct__ns _n f_c_-t_-f_c_ c_nt_ct" d_r_ng th_ p_nd_m_c. Pr_f_ss_r H_y_sh_ s__d _n_th_r r__s_n c__ld b_ sm_rtp_h_n_s. M_r_ y__ng p__pl_ _r_ ch__s_ng t_ _nt_r_ct w_th th__r ph_n_s r_th_r th_n w_th __ch _th_r. Th_s tr_nd c__ld w_rs_n J_p_n's _lr__dy l_w b_rth r_t_.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

a new study suggests that the number of japanese teenagers who have experienced a first kiss is at a record low a national survey was conducted by the japan association for sex education high schoolers answered questions on their sexual experiences and behaviour the researchers found that just one in five high school boys has experienced kissing this is the lowest figure since records began in 1974 the number of girls who have kissed is also on the decline just a quarter of japans female high school students have done so the numbers for both sexes have been on the decline since their peak in 2005 researchers analyzed data from 12562 questionnaires

the researchers said there were several reasons why fewer and fewer japanese teens are kissing a big reason is the coronavirus pandemic a researcher suggested that the limited contact with others during the coronavirus outbreak may have lowered the rate of sexual activity among junior and senior high school students researcher professor yusuke hayashi said there was a combination of school closures and restrictions on face-to-face contact during the pandemic professor hayashi said another reason could be smartphones more young people are choosing to interact with their phones rather than with each other this trend could worsen japans already low birth rate

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241107-first-kiss.html>

A new study suggests that the number of Japanese teenagers who have experienced a first kiss is at a record low. A national survey was conducted by the Japan Association for Sex Education. High schoolers answered questions on their sexual experiences and behaviour. The researchers found that just one in five high school boys has experienced kissing. This is the lowest figure since records began in 1974. The number of girls who have kissed is also on the decline. Just a quarter of Japan's female high school students have done so. The numbers for both sexes have been on the decline since their peak in 2005. Researchers analyzed data from 12,562 questionnaires. The researchers said there were several reasons why fewer and fewer Japanese teens are kissing. A big reason is the coronavirus pandemic. As researchers suggested that: "The limited contact with others during the coronavirus outbreak may have lowered the rate of sexual activity among junior and senior high school students." Researcher Professor Yusuke Hayashi said there was a "combination of school closures and restriction on face-to-face contact" during the pandemic. Professor Hayashi said another reason could be smartphones. More young people are choosing to interact with their phones rather than with each other. This trend could worsen Japan's already low birth rate.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. A FIRST KISS: Make a poster about a first kiss. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. KISSING LESSONS: Write a magazine article about having education on kissing in school. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on a first kiss. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on first kisses. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. d 2. f 3. b 4. g 5. c 6. e 7. a
8. n 9. k 10. m 11. h 12. i 13. l 14. j

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F 2 F 3 F 4 T 5 F 6 T 7 T 8 F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. h	2. j	3. a	4. f	5. c
6. d	7. i	8. e	9. b	10. g

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Nationally
- 1974
- Three quarters
- 2005
- 12,562
- Several
- During the coronavirus pandemic
- Face-to-face contact
- Their smartphones
- Japan's low birth rate

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- Japanese teenagers who have experienced a first kiss.
- Just one in five high school boys.
- The lowest figure since records began in 1974.
- A quarter of Japan's female high school students.
- Both sexes have been on the decline.
- The researchers said there were several reasons why.
- Limited contact with others during the coronavirus outbreak.
- Professor Hayashi said another reason could be smartphones.
- People are choosing to interact with their phones.
- This trend could worsen Japan's low birth rate.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. a 2. c 3. b 4. d 5. a 6. d 7. b 8. d 9. c 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)